

April 5, 1967

EWA attacks secret funding; appraisal asked

Reacting to recent disclosures involving the CIA, Chancellor Franklin D. Murphy and other Trustees of the Education and World Affairs (EWA) group recently called upon the academic community to undertake an appraisal of the role of scholars in overseas research.

The Board of Trustees attacked covert funding of overseas research projects, noting that when exposure of covert funding operations takes place, "the reputation of the American scholar is injured, and future investigations by American scholars are placed in jeopardy."

Murphy noted that researchers must act with "scholarly objectivity and discretion when they get in close contact with intimate things."

In other action, President Lyndon Johnson recently announced new federal guidelines barring covert funding of educational and private voluntary organizations.

The president said he was directing all government agencies to implement the policy, proposed by a presidential com-

mittee established to investigate relations between the CIA and private American groups.

The new federal policy includes the termination of support to organizations currently receiving covert assistance "as quickly as possible without destroying valuable private organizations before they can seek new means of public support."

Johnson said he would give serious consideration to the committee's recommendation "that the government should promptly develop and establish a public-private mechanism to provide public funds openly for overseas

activities which are adjudged deserving, in the national interest, of public support."

Howard Swearer, assoc. prof. of political science, and chairman of the UCLA Committee on International and Comparative Studies, revealed that during the 1966-1967 academic year, there were 93 UCLA faculty and administrators working abroad for one month or more.

The Board of Trustees of EWA said that their concern had been created in part by the "insufficient experience and degree of sensitivity revealed by American scholars working abroad."

The EWA stated that "we are at the end of an era... when the individual scholar could undertake field research in any part of the world with little regard for possible consequences."

The organization proposed a set of research guidelines which include the suggestion that the scholar "engage only in those relationships with governmental agencies which can be made matters of full public knowledge."

In addition to its opposition to covertly financed research projects, the EWA Board proposals included the following guidelines:

"—Universities must assume an active and effective role in providing safeguards and setting high standards for U.S. study and research undertakings overseas;

"—The university should seek to assure that the overseas research of its faculty members enhances the American academic presence abroad and projects the best qualities of our educational community. It can do so by encouraging its scholars who are going abroad to take active account of the other country's developmental needs in education and research;